

REMARKS

In reply to the April 26, 2005 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects claims 19-23, with traverse.

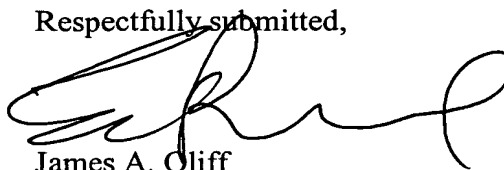
By this Amendment, claims 1 and 19 are amended and new claim 24 is added. Accordingly, claims 1-24 are pending in this application. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

New claim 24 depends from claim 19. Applicants respectfully request that claim 24 be examined with elected claims 19-23.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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